



APPROVED – 03-11-03
KING COUNTY MENTAL HEALTH ADVISORY BOARD

REGULAR MEETING

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 11, 2003

EXCHANGE BUILDING, CONFERENCE ROOM 6A

Members Present: Shauna Cheney (awaiting County Council confirmation), Alice Howell, Mindy Meyring, Howard Miller, Freda Monroe, Jim Nobles (awaiting County Council confirmation), Eleanor Owen, Debra Roszkowski, Gwendolyn Williams

Members Absent: Jack Fuller (excused), Helen Nilon -awaiting County Council confirmation (excused), Ron Sterling (excused), Clifford Thurston

Guests Present: Tom Bristow (KC Council); Linda Brown (KCASAAB); Mike Rynas, Martha Thiry (NAMI-Eastside); Kelly Evans (DCHS)

Staff Present: Sherry Hamilton, Rhoda Naguit, Geoff Miller, Jean Robertson

Board Chair Howard Miller convened the meeting of the King County Mental Health Advisory Board (KCMHAB) at 4:05 p.m.

I. WELCOME & INTRODUCTION

Board Chair Howard Miller made a brief welcoming remark and asked everyone to introduce him/herself.

He also welcomed and thanked Linda Brown, Chairperson for the King County Alcoholism and Substance Abuse Administrative Board (KCASAAB), for serving as KCASAAB Liaison to KCMHAB. Linda stated that she and Joan Clement, another KCASAAB member, are alternate Liaisons for KCMHAB.

II. APPROVAL OF JANUARY 14, 2003 MINUTES

Eleanor Owen made a motion, which was seconded by Freda Monroe, to accept the January 14, 2003 minutes as submitted. The motion passed and was approved unanimously.

KING COUNTY MENTAL HEALTH, CHEMICAL ABUSE AND DEPENDENCY SERVICES DIVISION
Exchange Building, Room 610
821 Second Ave., Suite 10, Seattle, WA 98104-1598
(206) 296-5213

Sign language and communication material in alternate formats can be arranged, given sufficient notice (296-7623). TDD Number 205-0569.



III. CHAIR'S REPORT

A. Update Board Liaison Assignment

Copies of the Board Liaison Assignment were distributed to the board members present for review and updating. Chairman Howard Miller noted that Jack Fuller's health problem has compromised his ability to attend the Community Psychiatric Clinic's (CPC) board meeting. Eleanor Owen volunteered to serve as Board liaison for CPC. Shauna Cheney chose Consejo Counseling and Referral Service and Seattle Counseling Service for her liaison assignment. Debra Roszkowski picked Harborview Mental Health Services; James Nobles chose to serve as Board liaison for Chronic Populations Action Council (CPAC); and Freda Monroe will call Evergreen Healthcare to find out if they welcome a liaison from KCMHAB to attend their board meeting.

IV. COMMITTEE REPORTS

A. Legislative Advocacy & Public Affairs Committee

At the January 22, 2003 meeting of the Legislative Advocacy and Public Affairs Committee, Amnon Shoenfeld reported on the Governor's budget and the impact of funding cuts on the King County mental health and chemical dependency services. The tragedy of it all is that we are potentially losing good programs which deal with mentally ill persons from the criminal justice system, the Ticket to Work program and the General Assistance for the Unemployable (GAU).

Seattle Mental Health has been asked to do a cost-benefit analysis of Mentally Ill Offender- Community Transition Project (MIO-CTP) for the legislature. This is to determine the savings for criminal justice system.

Eleanor gave a brief update on the status of some legislative bills affecting mental health services. The substitute bill for Prescription Drugs passed the House with 64-33 votes. Congresswoman Eileen Cody was a great ally of MH system. This bill is now in the Senate. There was a hearing last Monday that she was unable to attend. She urged the board to continue to watch the progress of this bill. The board will be provided with abstracts of legislative bills affecting mental health and chemical dependency system.

Substitute Bill 1214 has the support of King County but not from NAMI-Washington. The concern is access to prescriptions.

On February 14th, NAMI's Operating and Review Panel will hold a community meeting to solicit from members, friends, and allies about the future of NAMI-

Washington. This will be held at Calvary Lutheran Church, 2415 S. 320th Street in Federal Way at 10:00 a.m. Everyone was urged to attend this meeting.

B. Nominating Update

Rhoda Naguit reported that the King County Executive's office has appointed Helen Nilon, Shauna Cheney, and James Nobles to the King County Mental Health Advisory Board. The Councilmember from their respective district will introduce their appointment to the Law, Justice, and Human Services Committee on February 18, 2003. Their appointment is subject to confirmation by the full King County Council.

There are two potential candidates for board membership; Edward Gutkowski and Atty. Russell Leonard from Public Defender's Office. Atty. Leonard plans to attend the March 11, 2003 meeting.

C. Quality Council

Board Chair Howard Miller passed copies of a draft letter approved by the Quality Council on January 27, 2003 regarding Case Manager Issues drafted by Ron Sterling, for board's review and approval.

Alice Howell made motion and was seconded by Shauna Cheney to approve the letter regarding Case Manager issues and to be transmitted to Amnon Shoenfeld, Acting Division Director of Mental Health, Chemical Abuse and Dependency Services Division (MHCADSD). The motion was passed and approved unanimously.

V. STAFF REPORT

A. MHCADSD Report

Jean Robertson, MHCADSD Assistant Division Director/RSN Administrator, reported on the following:

- Vocational Service Plan

The Division was notified last Friday that we will get funding from DVR for \$.5 million over the next two years for implementation of the plan. RSN will use this funding to re-orient the system and develop regional employment centers.

- Housing Voucher Request for Proposal (RFP)

The Housing Voucher RFP has been released. Funding for this program came from savings due to the closure of Cedar Hills Addiction Treatment (CHAT) facility. A Bidders' Conference for this RFP is scheduled for tomorrow.

- Residential Services Statement of Policy

The Statement of Policy Intent for residential services was presented at the Partnership meeting. The goal of a new residential policy is to have funding flexibility and to create more options/choices for clients. Under the current system, an individual who does not want to live in an institution or facility is excluded: has almost no option for housing and supports. The new residential policy is shifting in the direction away from facility based service to more normative housing with a continuum of supportive services which is more consistent with recovery vision. However, some facility-based residential treatment would still be available for clients who need that level of care.

There will be a planning process to determine how the transition will have the least amount of impact on residential providers. The Plan is not in place yet. A meeting with providers will be held on Thursday, February 13, 2003 @ 8:30 a.m. to go over the outline of this policy and to begin to get their input.

A comment was made about a need for the case managers or whoever is assigned to the individual client to be involved in the planning process. The issue of lack of supervision and absence of a housekeeper in some private-run facility was also brought up.

- Co-occurring Disorders (COD) Tier RFP

The RFP for COD Tier is being prepared. The program is mainly for individuals leaving the jail. We are still awaiting decision regarding the amount of funding available.

- State Level Planning

There are continuing potential changes in WAC, contract, and waiver. The State Plan identifies Medicaid modalities.

The next Stakeholders Meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, March 5, 2003.

B. Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act (HIPAA) Briefing

Copies of one of the briefing papers for were handed out. In a nutshell, HIPAA is a federal law that was passed in 1996 to reform the health insurance market and simplify health care administrative processes. Health plans and providers are required to comply with several rules. The first three rules are:

- Transaction rule: This was first to be finalized. It took effect on October 15, 2002 with provision for a year extension. We must be in compliance in October 2003. There are 5 transactions that will effect us. It will require that we are able to accept and transmit data in standardized format. This result in the need for major reprogramming related to three major activities; claims, payment and eligibility.
- Privacy Rule: The Privacy Rule, which will be most visible to clients, will take effect on April 14, 2003. It requires confidentiality of Protected Health Information. This is not new because Washington State's Confidentiality Protections were already fairly strict and comprehensive. What is new in this rule is the Administrative Requirements aspect. The rule is complex so assuring a "covered-entity" (CE) is doing what is required is laborious work. It defines Health Care Providers, Health Care Plan and Health Care Clearinghouse. A "covered entity" is anyone who is a plan, provider or clearinghouse and engages in any electronic transfer of data. A notice of privacy practices is required to be supplied to all clients.
- Security Rule: This is meant to keep data secured.

VI. KING COUNTY LEGISLATIVE ACTION PLAN

Geoff Miller introduced Tom Bristow, Government Relations Associate with the King County Council and Kelly Evans, Department of Community & Human Services' new Legislative Affairs Consultant. One of her responsibilities is to bring stakeholders together in dealing with legislative issues affecting mental health and chemical dependency systems.

They handed out copies of DSHS Mental Health Proposed Budget, Catherine Gaylord's letter to Karl Brimmer, Director of State Mental Health Division, requesting clarification on the 3% increase over the 2001-03 biennial level in the Governor's Budget, the response letter from Linda Tullis, Chief Finance of State Mental Health Division, and a sample letter to send to legislators regarding the 3% increase.

The main issue on the Governor's Budget for mental health is the 3% increase, which is going to community mental health services. In reading the narrative that accompanied the recommendation summary for the Mental Health Division budget, it gives an impression that RSN funding for community mental health services has been increased by 3% over the last 2001-03 biennium level. Based on the response received from the State Mental Health Division, the funding to the RSN for community mental health services is actually reduced.

In order to correct the misconception about the 3% increase in funding, the handouts are being distributed to providers and other stakeholders. Tom Bristow and Kelly Evans are scheduled to meet next week with the people who prepared these figures. There are three things we need to do at this point. First, educate

both local and state legislators about the facts of the 3% increase in the Governor's Budget. Board members are asked to write to their legislators regarding this issue both individually and collectively. Second, for the legislators to understand that mental health has been suffering from budget cuts for three consecutive years. Send the message that no further cuts on mental health services. Caseloads have increased 50% but funding has stayed the same.

Tom Bristow emphasized the importance of writing to legislators individually and collectively. The letter must contain "what will happen if"; personalize it and send it out by next week. Linda Brown expressed her concern that mental health and substance abuse systems might be fighting over the same funding. She recommended that both boards make a more collaborative effort on the issue of funding. Kelly Evans offered to draft a joint letter to be signed by the chairperson of both boards. In addition, she will draft a sample form letter for board members to send to their respective legislators.

VII. LIAISON REPORTS

- **Freda Monroe: Mental Health Court/Asian Counseling and Referral Service**

Freda has no report on Mental Health Court at this time.

Asian Counseling and Referral Service is doing well. Freda will provide handouts next meeting.

- **Jack Fuller: Community Psychiatric Clinic**

Not present to report.

- **Alice Howell: Highline-W. Seattle Mental Health/Valley Cities Counseling and Consultation**

At the January 16, 2003 meeting of Valley Cities Counseling and Consultation's Board, they distributed copies of their 2003 Annual Development Plan schedule which include fund raising and marketing/public relations; and their 2002 Presentation Schedule. In 2002 at least one or more presentations, displays, or tours were done every month at various places in South King County. This effort provided wider exposure for the agency in the community. Hopefully this will make it easier for them to solicit donations for the center.

On January 27, 2002, Alice attended the Highline/West Seattle Mental Health Board meeting. The long term Western State Hospital patients placed at Highline are doing well. Plans of the proposed new campus buildings were shown and discussed. The vision is to eventually have a Health and Social

Services campus at the West Seattle site, with space rented to health care professionals, and to consumer-run businesses, and housing for clients.

- **Howard Miller: Downtown Emergency Service Center**

Howard expressed doubts if his attendance at their board meetings is useful at this time because their focus is more on fiscal issues.

The agency is facing a \$700,000 deficit for 2003. To make up for this deficit, they are increasing their fundraising efforts and have recently hired a person to be responsible for this.

- **Eleanor Owen: Partnership**

No report at this time.

- **Clifford Thurston: Community House**

Not present to make the report.

- **Helen Nilon: Seattle Mental Health**

Freda received Helen's report by email with a request for her to read it at the board meeting. Freda stated that she has not read the entirety of the report so the report will be shared at the next meeting instead.

VIII. BOARD CONCERNS

A. Change of Board Meeting Time

Board Chair Howard Miller opened the floor for suggestions about the change of board meeting time. Several board members suggested 4:30 pm or 5:00 pm. Howard asked the board what criteria to consider in making the decision on change of meeting time – necessity or preference? It was decided to base the decision on necessity.

Eleanor Owen moved and seconded by Freda Monroe to move the board meeting at 4:30-6:30pm effective March 11, 2003. The motion was passed and unanimously approved.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 6:00 p.m.

Prepared by:

Attested by:

Rhoda A. Naguit
Recording Secretary

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Howard Miller", written in a cursive style.

Howard Miller
Board Chairman